

Box 81
SEP 7

PAID

C

Rev. Amos A. Phelps
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No. 5 Hayward Place Mass



amount of moral & ~~physical~~ intellectual power, than
any other ~~side~~ employment now before me. — On the oth-
er hand I am apprehensive that those miscellaneous em-
ployments, if continued in much longer, will, at my time
of life, shut me out of some appropriate pastoral field
where I should wish to spend the evening of my life days.

I would thank you for as early an answer
as convenient; & if you have time, — besides answering my
inquiries relative to my present agency, — for such in-
formation & suggestions relative to the contemplated agency,
as you may have to offer. Not that I have the weakness to
~~be~~ suppose that my humble services can be a subject of
any solicitude on the part of your Committee; but I make
the request merely to ~~satisfy~~ satisfy my own conscience & ~~help~~
help me to settle my own course.

Yours most truly & affectionately,

Phaphras Goodman.

My present agency I have made up my mind, unless something occurs to change my purpose, to relinquish at the close of my year in Oct. And my mind is now balancing between the different applications or purposes.

So knowledge of such details of the anti-slavery service as your experience could furnish would assist me in judging of my competency & prospect of success in the business.

Among the specific inquiries which I want to make, are, In what relation or attitude with the agency place me in regard to those ministers who do not sympathize with the operation? What would be expected of me in places where I could have neither the ~~or~~ cooperation nor consent of my brethren? &c - Among the different ~~modes of~~ fields of service that are now before me, I wish to enter that in which I can be the most useful.

It would be a relief to my mind to have unequivocal indications of the divine will in the case. Among the considerations which to my mind favor the abolition agency, are (not the conceit that I have any thing of intellectual power to make my services valuable,) but the accep. which my age, habits of fraternal intercourse with my brethren, & their confidence in me, would give me to their pulpits & their people; & the power of the subject, from its strong hold upon my sympathies, to call into action a greater a-

Andover Sept. 6th 1839
Rev. Epaphras Goodman

Brother Phelps.

I called at your quarters Monday to ascertain when it would be expedient for me to present my subject in the Marlboro. Chappel, if at all. Should have proposed Sabbath after next. The third or the fourth Sabbath in this month would suit my convenience, preferring however the fourth, because I am now conditionally engaged for the third. If there are any reasons however which render a compliance with this proposal unadvisable, I would thank you to tell me frankly: for it would be sufficiently trying to my feelings to pursue myself under the most favorable circumstances in that conspicuous place, without crowding out some ~~one~~ individual, on subject, whose claim is held on public attention would be much stronger than mine.

I have wanted also to have some further conversation with you on the subject of the proposed abolition agency, especially the details of the modus operandi.